

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 01399 201159Z

53

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 ORM-03 SR-02 AID-20 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01

DRC-01 /149 W

----- 022303

R 201205Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5792

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 1399

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MUHAMMAD AL-FARRA ON PALESTINIAN ROLE AT GENEVA

1. SUMMARY. ASST SEC GEN OF ARAB LEAGUE SEES SERIOUS OBSTACLES IN WAY OF CONSTRUCTIVE PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION IN GENEVA TALKS. INCLUSION OF RESPONSIBLE NON-FEDAYEEN PALESTINIANS IS OBVIOUSLY DESIRABLE, HE SAID, AND CAN COME ABOUT ONLY IF TERMS OF REFERENCE OF CONFERENCE ARE BROADER THAN RESOLUTION 242 (WHICH DEALS SOLELY WITH REFUGEES) AND IF USG AND USSR INDICATE FIRM SUPPORT FOR CONCEPT OF "LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE", A CLOUDY FORMULA WHICH COULD BE GIVEN MEANING IN GENEVA. END SUMMARY.

2. DISCUSSING PALESTINIAN ROLE AT GENEVA WITH EMBOFF MARCH 19, MUHAMMAD AL-FARRA, ASST SEC GEN OF AL FOR PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAIRO 01399 201159Z

POINTED OUT THAT PLO BY DEFINITION IS "LIBERATION" ORGANIZATION

WHICH, IN VIEW OF MOST PALESTINIANS, IS NOT QUALIFIED TO FORM GOVERNMENT. PALESTINIAN NOTABLES OUTSIDE FEDAYEEN MOVEMENT MUST BE BROUGHT INTO NEGOTIATING PROCESS, BUT MANY EXPATRIATE INTELLECTUALS DO NOT WISH TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH HOPELESS PROPOSITION LIKE MUFTI'S 1948 GOVERNMENT IN EXILE.

3. FOR MEANINGFUL PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION, TWO POINTS MUST BE CLARIFIED. FIRST, TERMS OF REFERENCE OF GENEVA TALKS MUST BE SEEN TO BE BROADER THAN RESOLUTION 242. DELEGATION MUST SPEAK FOR PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, NOT JUST ON BEHALF OF REFUGEES. SECOND, THERE MUST BE SOME INDICATION FROM MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON THAT A GOVERNMENT IN EXILE WOULD BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY. UNFORTUNATELY, PALESTINIAN NOTABLES AWAIT ENCOURAGEMENT FROM USG AND USSR, AND THOSE TWO GOVERNMENTS SEEM TO BE WAITING TO SEE WHAT PALESTINIANS WILL DO. PALESTINE REMAINS KEY TO ME SETTLEMENT AND IT IS IN US INTEREST TO ENSURE COMPETENT PALESTINIANS ARE DRAWN INTO NEGOTIATING PROCESS. VAGUENESS OF INTERNATIONAL FORMULATIONS HAS BEEN PALESTINIAN BANE--FROM BALFOUR TO RES 242. SPECIFIC RECOGNITION BY GREAT POWERS OF "LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE" WOULD MAKE CONSTRUCTIVE TALKS POSSIBLE IN GENEVA, WHERE BUSINESS OF CONFERENCE WOULD BE TO DEFINE THESE RIGHTS.

4. IF ABOVE TWO CONDITIONS ARE MET, SCENARIO WOULD BE STRAIGHT-FORWARD. PLO EXEC COMMITTEE WOULD PREPARE CABINET LIST, INCLUDING WELL KNOWN NON-FEDAYEEN NAMES, FOR SUBMISSION TO PNC IN CAIRO. RESULTANT BROAD-BASED GOVERNMENT IN EXILE WOULD APPOINT DELEGATION FOR GENEVA TALKS.

5. IN EVENT OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM GAZA AND WEST BANK, FARRA SAID HE AND MANY OF HIS FRIENDS BELIEVE THERE SHOULD BE INTERIM PERIOD OF PERHAPS TWO YEARS WITH UN OR "ARAB" PRESENCE. AT END OF PERIOD, ALL THOSE WHO HAD ESTABLISHED A RESIDENCE IN PALESTINE, EVEN IF THEY WORKED ABROAD, WOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE IN PLEBISCITE TO DETERMINE POLITICAL FUTURE OF THEIR COUNTRY.

6. COMMENT: FARRA'S PRESENT POSITION IN ARAB LEAGUE, EXPERIENCE AT UN, AND PALESTINIAN BACKGROUND (BORN KHAN YUNIS, GREW UP IN JAFFA), GIVE HIM EXCELLENT CONTACTS WITH BROAD SPECTRUM OF PALESTINIANS. WE ARE UNAWARE OF HIS ACCESS TO GOE OR CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CAIRO 01399 201159Z

PLO PLANNING, BUT BELIEVE HIS IDEAS DO REFLECT THOSE OF MANY EXPATRIATE INTELLECTUALS.
EILTS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, PEACE TALKS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, SELFDETERMINATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CAIRO01399
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740058-0961
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740330/aaaabbsq.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 JUN 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <31 JAN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MUHAMMAD AL-FARRA ON PALESTINIAN ROLE AT GENEVA
TAGS: PFOR, XF, PLO, (FARRA, MUHAMMAD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005